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Web-Based Military Newspapers: Providing Insights into Soldiers Thoughts and Activities

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Web-Based Military Newspapers:

Providing Insight Into Soldiers
Thoughts and Activities

Bert Chapman

- Government Information Librarian/Associate Professor of Library Science
- Purdue University Libraries
- FDLP Conference-Washington, DC-October 23, 2006

Military Newspapers: Historical Background

- Military newspapers have played an important role in U.S. military history and the military history of other countries
- These newspapers can be published by military services, individual military units, and national defense departments.
- Military periodicals and journals may be published by military agencies, commercial and nonprofit scholarly publishers, and service interest groups e.g. United States Army Association, Navy League of the United States

Prominent U.S. Military Newspapers

- Stars and Stripes-published World War I to present
- Army Times-published 1940-present
- Background reading: Military Periodicals: United States and Selected International Journals and Newspapers. Michael Unsworth, ed. Greenwood Press, 1990.

Unsworth Observation

- “Despite their long history, American military journals have rarely received attention from the scholarly or bibliographic communities.” p. xiii

Reasons for this presentation

- Internet makes widespread access to military newspapers easier
- Many U.S. military newspapers are accessible on the web
- These newspapers provide text, pictorial, and, in some cases, audio and video content.

- These newspapers present information on activities of individual units at domestic military bases and on their activities in combat zones such as Afghanistan and Iraq.
- Military newspapers can be subject to censorship depending on local security environments and evolving political and military conditions.

- Military newspapers can provide soldiers personalized and on location perspectives about area conditions and activities not provided in official government reports or reports provided by mainstream print or electronic media organizations e.g. magazines, newspapers, radio, television networks etc.

Web-based military newspapers gateways

- Digital Video and Imagery Distribution System (DVIDS) www.dvidshub.net/
- [U.S. Central Command](#)

Sample Web-Based Military Newspapers

- [Anaconda Times](#) (13th Sustainment Command Public (Expeditionary))
- [Band of Brothers](#) (101st Airborne)
- [Coalition Bulletin](#) (Central Command)
- [Defense and Security Highlights Afghanistan](#) (Combined Security Command Transition-Afghanistan)

Sample Web-Based Military Newspapers

- [Desert Voice](#) (Third Army Coalition Forces Land Component)
- [Striker Torch](#) (2nd Brigade Combat Team Forward-Camp Liberty, Iraq)

Anaconda Times

DVIDS Publications - Microsoft Internet Explorer

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Back Forward Stop Reload Home Search Favorites Print Mail Print Preview

Address http://www.dvidshub.net/pub_show.php?id=1357

Google nancy pelosi criticism Go Bookmarks 2458 blocked Check AutoLink AutoFill Send to nancy pelosi criticism Settings

dvids publications

Save a Copy Search Select 117% Sign

Search across one or more PDF files

ANACONDA TIMES

SEPTEMBER 20, 2006 PROUDLY SERVING LSA ANACONDA

INVASION!
Anaconda Parrotheads fill outdoor pool with music, food and donated gifts
Page 8

Knock Out
'CONTENDER' SERIES BOXER MAKES A STOP FOR BOXING CLASS
Page 13

57th MC >> New perks appear at local java shop
by Spc. Amanda Solitario
Anaconda Times Staff Writer
LSA ANACONDA, Iraq—Every Soldier should have a place to unwind and collect their thoughts after a hectic day at war. With

15 SC(E) >> Different patch same mission
"I intend as much as possible to be out there with our Soldiers every day"

Vol. 3, Issue 37

1 of 15

Start DVIDS Publications - ... Microsoft PowerPoint - ... Internet 3:16 PM

Sgt. Catherine Evernham , from Long Beach, N.J.
 , 250th Combat Support Battalion >> Admin. Sergeant

ANACONDA TIMES

SEPT

Three women share the fight in war, cancer

a Hemmerly-Brown

Anaconda Times Staff Writer

DA, Iraq – It's hard to find someone who
 own life or a family member's affected by
 that struggle to the stress of war can mag-
 ne disease.

Shear, Sgt. 1st Class Carolina Castle, and
 Rodriguez, have a lot in common. All three
 d in LSA Anaconda's recent Relay for Life
 d all three have survived years of struggle
 are women who are not only serving their
 t are doing it in spite of a personal battle

un

of Warnerville, N.Y., and deputy opera-
 d Corps Support Command, has been bat-
 tal cells since 1999. Shear first noticed red-
 ner forehead that year, but ignored them for

enjoy the sun every chance I got, not know-
 s fueling the cancer," Shear said.

receive chemotherapy until
 the age of 6. Her mother was
 diagnosed with throat cancer
 and died in 1974, followed
 by Castle's father's death
 from lung and kidney cancer
 in 1986.

"Since the loss of my
 folks, I have felt like I cheat-
 ed them," Castle said. "Not
 loving them enough, and
 cancer should have taken me
 instead. I didn't do enough to
 save them ... these thoughts
 have haunted me for years."

Castle has been involved
 in Relay for Life events since
 1989 and has used them as a
 way to deal with the loss re-
 lated to cancer in her family.

"I decided to turn my



"I a
 when she
 said. "I v
 elementar
 took me
 always d
 to talk ab
 told me
 wasn't go

Altho
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 disease,
 was alwa
 showed h
 much pain

As he
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 out her fi
 her native

"Final

Yancy W. Caruthers, assistant plans officer for Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Corps Command, oversaw the portion of the exercise at the West MWR.

"As much for the leadership as the responders, because the leaders need to know where the weaknesses are so they can fix them," he said.

Caruthers, who is an emergency room physician in his civilian job, spent more than 100 hours creating realistic-looking injuries, including burns and an amputation. He gave the "injured" personnel. He gave them instructions on how to act and how medics should treat their injuries.

"I wanted to give responders a feel for what it's like to respond to a real emergency and get them to consider what they would do when the situation is as difficult as this," he said.

Caruthers said, "You get chaos ... It's the responder's job to manage that."

Class Don C. Hammons, acting adjutant for 864th Adjutant General, has had previous experience with casualty during one of these exercises. He helps everyone involved learn to handle such situations.

The Army's mantra is train as you fight, Hammons said. "So the more realistic the exercise we can make it, the more the Soldiers benefit. The more information they

Sgt. Chris D. Stafford, fire station sergeant with the 32nd Expeditionary Civil Engineer Battalion, said afterwards that what he learned from the exercise was a success.

"I thought the coordination between the units went really well," he said, "there were only a few minor communications difficulties." "This was a really



Photo by Sgt. Gary A. Witte



Photo by Spc. Amy

the exercise helps his unit, B Battery, 5th Battalion, 113th Field Artillery Regiment, to be more flexible given different missions on short notice.

"It gets us out of the norm," he said.

Col. Martin J. Christensen, the 3rd COSCOM surgeon, said the exercise stresses the need for quick action by Combat Lifesaver-trained personnel and the medics. The medical facility at Logistical



CA Soldier learns Arabic customs from parent



by Spc. KaRonda Fleming

Anaconda Times Staff Writer

LSA ANACONDA, Iraq -- As the oldest daughter of three immigrant parents, Staff Sgt. Magda R. Khalifa, a reserve Soldier with the 404th Civil Affairs Battalion, has provided much cultural awareness to her civil affairs unit.

Khalifa said her father, a Muslim, emigrated from Egypt and her mother, a Catholic, emigrated from Columbia.

"It was a very unique situation," Khalifa said. "Growing up, with parents from two very different backgrounds."

"Irrelevant to which religion either of them were, it taught me the values of living with both customs," Khalifa said.

As a young child, Khalifa still had the opportunity to celebrate Christmas. Her family followed the Ten Commandments and taught her values on how to become a good person. She said those values were passed down through both of her parents equally.

"I feel that they have instilled in me a lot of values, like the love of my country," Khalifa said. "As a child of immigrants into the United States, I am able to appreciate what I have, having being born in America."

"I appreciate the value of freedom and the rights I have as an American Soldier. That is partially why I want to serve my country," Khalifa said.

When she joined the military in March

said. The way the Army is structured, a reserve Soldier can bring their civilian skills to the table when they deploy.

"I've deployed with civil affairs Soldiers who serve as doctors, city planners, coaches, engineers, and writers," Khalifa said. "They are able to use their civilian skills to help develop solutions while deployed."

Khalifa said she had a career as a consultant, working for a Fortune 500 company. She said she hasn't been in the civilian world since she enlisted, and is now serving for her second tour. Her first tour was in 2004 in the Diyala Province.

It is important to know a country's culture. As a civil affairs Soldier, she said it is important to be cultural subject matter experts, speaking the language or understanding the different aspects of the culture. I am able to bring that to the table. Many things don't seem foreign to me, such as the certain dishes they cook."

Khalifa said, "I feel I have a better understanding of the Iraqis because of my experience with a fellow Middle Eastern culture, the Egyptian culture, which I was exposed to through my father's side of the family."

She said she visited both Egypt and Columbia while growing up. In Columbia, she enjoyed the vibrant Latina culture and they celebrate life, the food, and the family.

Egypt was a bit of a contrast, she said she did love the family structure, the culture, and the food there too.

"On some level, I can see

Sept. 11 movie provokes strong response among servicemember

by Sgt. Gary A. Witte

Anaconda Times Staff Writer

ANAACONDA, Iraq - The audience was silent as the opening titles showed the number of people killed at the World Trade Center. Few in the crowd said anything even when they stood up and walked out as the credits rolled.

The "World Trade Center" movie, which premiered here last month, proved to be an emotional experience for many. Sgt. 1st Class Vanessa L. Cudjoe, of Clifton, S.C., and Sgt. Carmen D. Baldrich, of Lorain, Ohio, said the movie made them both cry.

"The person behind us was crying, too," Cudjoe said. "The movie tells the true story of Port Authority Police officers who survived the initial collapse of the buildings, only to find themselves struggling for their lives while trapped in the rubble."

Baldrich, a senior movement NCO with the 609th Movement Control Team, said she and Cudjoe, who has the same rank, discussed how they would support each other in a similar situation.

"It showed how strong human beings can be and not even give up," Baldrich said.

The movie previously faced controversy from those who were concerned its director, Oliver Stone, would use it to make political points. Those servicemembers interviewed for the film said they were pleased that he didn't.

"He didn't do it ... political," said Sgt. Keith Thomas, logistics node officer for the 172nd Striker Brigade. "He just told the story of those two guys."

Others felt a movie about the terrorist attacks shouldn't be made yet.

Sgt. D'Angelo Foster, a welding NCOIC with 1st Brigade, 68th Combined Arms Battalion, said before attending the show he felt the film came too soon, since the U.S. military still has a job to do in the Middle East.

"We're still here," Foster said. "We still haven't got (Osama) Bin Ladin."

Senior Airman Chris N. Sutton, 332nd Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, of Bethlehem, Pa., said it was a hard movie to watch because of the ordeal the officers went through.

"I wasn't sure if I wanted to see it or not," Sutton said. "(But) it makes you realize why we're here."

The movie also shows the torment faced by the officers' families as they attempted to find out if they had been killed in the attacks.

Cudjoe and Baldrich said military families back home go through a similar stress worrying about their servicemembers here in Iraq.

"The families go through the same thing we go through," Baldrich said. "They just don't put on uniforms."

Senior Airman Blake E. McKinney, a structuralist with the 332nd Civil Engineering Squadron, said he was a sophomore in high school when the Sept. 11 attacks happened.

"It was probably one of the reasons I joined the military in the first place," he said. "You want to do something to make your country more secure."

McKinney said many of his fellow Servicemembers were ambivalent about the movie coming out.

"I know a lot don't want to see a 9-11 movie right now," he said. "It hits too close to home for some of them."



Servicemembers examine the lobby poster for the "World Trade Center" movie. Photo by Sgt. Gary A. Witte.

BAND OF BROTHERS

July 2006 ♦ Vol. 1, Issue 9



BOB ON THE FOB by SGT Albert J. Merrifield



Hard lurker n. (härd'·lærk'ər)

1. One who avoids as much work as possible, while working hard to make it appear that one is a productive, active, and important member of the team. The hard lurker is



photo by Staff Sgt. Russell Lee Klika

Staff Sgt. Brent Brigga, Special Police Transition Team, attached to the 101st Airborne Division, teaches an Iraqi police officer proper breathing techniques during a live fire range conducted at Patrol Base Olson in Samarra, Iraq, for the officers of the 3rd Battalion, 3rd Brigade, 1st National Police Division.

Staff Sgt. Russell Lee Klika
133rd Mobile Public
Affairs Detachment

SAMARRA, Iraq -- Whenever the Minister of Interior in Baghdad orders a company of national police to move to hot spots around Iraq, a special group of coalition soldiers moves with them.

The Special Police Transition Team, which is made up of soldiers from the U.S. Army European Command and attached to the 101st Airborne Division, is responsible for training and advising the Iraqi National Police force from the 3rd Battalion, 3rd Brigade, 1st National Police Division.

"We have been with this division since February," said Maj. Oory Orosbie, team leader for the SPTT. "When they move, we move. We plan, rehearse, and conduct raids with them."

The team trains and advises the Iraqi Police on movement tactics, operations planning, cordon and search procedures and weapons.

This particular week, the team was training 20 policemen a day on how to fire, clean and clear a malfunction using their AK-47 rifles at Patrol Base Olsen in Samarra.

"We train them as we train our own," said Orosbie. "We teach them on the proper ways of handling a weapon, from breathing techniques to trigger squeeze."

Orosbie said the biggest problem they run into is

Miracle Rescue

Soldiers find baby in roadside box

Pfc. Paul Harris

3rd Heavy Brigade Combat
Team, 4th Infantry Division

BALAD, Iraq -- Soldiers from Logistical Support Area Anacanda in Balad saved the life of an abandoned, near-death baby June 9, while on patrol.

Staff Sgt. Donald White, patrol leader, Battery B, 3rd Battalion, 29th Field Artillery, 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, and his team came across a box on the side of the road.

Initially, he thought it was an improvised explosive device until he heard crying coming from the box.

White made sure there were no wires protruding from the box and made sure it was not booby trapped. Then he picked the box up.

"I ran as fast as I could, snatched the box off the ground and kept on running, thankfully nothing blew up," White said.

White then asked Spc. John Sullivan, healthcare specialist, Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 3rd Bn., 29th FA, to evaluate the child and as-

sess its medical needs.

The skin was literally hanging off the child and we could see it was massively dehydrated and malnourished, Smith said. In transit to Balad Air Base hospital, Sullivan turned the air conditioning vents in the baby's direction so the air would cool the child.

"[He] did not cry at all in the vehicle, but his eyes rolled in the back of his head and I thought, 'Oh my goodness he is starting to die on me,'" Sullivan said.

By the time the patrol made its way to the Balad Air Base hospital, the staff was already waiting for them. The Air Force medical staff treated the child.

After a while, the baby regained its strength and was in stable enough condition to be released. The baby was reunited with his mother June 19. The mother of the child told Iraqi Police she left the child in her daughter's care. The daughter was carrying the baby on the road near the LSA when she was chased by wild dogs and left the baby so she could run faster, according to reports.



Major Jase Dean, physician, 332nd Expeditionary Medical Operations Group from Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas, holds a baby he treated for dehydration at Balad Air Base, Iraq.

FEMALE NURSES BRING AID TO IA

Women make headway in male-dominated culture

Spc. Cassandra Groce
133rd Mobile Public
Affairs Detachment

KIRKUK, Iraq --Under the former regime, women in Iraq were associated with heavy robes, veils and oppression. Now, these same females are making their mark in the Iraqi Army.

Sandreek Nissan Khoshaba and Suhad Kareem Jabir are nurses at the Iraqi Army clinic at K1, an IA training facility near Kirkuk, Iraq. They are part of an increasing number of women in the typically male-dominated IA.

"The women bring a certain level of expertise and a sense of family into the clinic," said Maj. Curtis Aberle, clinic medical advisor for the Coalition Military Training Team. "They are highly respected by the men; highly respected for their professions. They are vital

members of the team."

Khoshaba, who specializes in setting broken bones, has nine years experience in nursing.

Jabir, who has been at the clinic for six months, has been a nurse for 13 years.

The women nurses are considered members of the Iraqi Army and radiate pride in their positions.

"I am very interested in working with my brothers in the military," Jabir said. "I need to work with the Army because they are my brothers."

The work can be very consuming. Khoshaba admits to often being so engrossed with helping Soldiers that she forgets



photos by Spc. Cassandra Groce

Suhad Kareem Jabir, a nurse at the Iraqi Army clinic at K1, an Iraqi Army training facility in Kirkuk, gives an IV to a heat injury patient.

everything else.

Medical diagnosis is not the limit of challenges for women working in the

publications

Inspiration

“I consider it an indispensable duty to close this last solemn act of my official life by commending the interests of our dearest country to the protection of Almighty God and those who have the superintendence of them into His holy keeping.”

- George Washington



#34

International Contributions to the War on Terrorism

Citizens from more than 80 countries died that day – innocent men, women and children from across the globe. Within hours of the tragedy, coalitions involving many nations assembled to fight terrorism – literally hundreds of countries have contributed in a variety of ways – some militarily, others diplomatically, economically and financially. Some nations have helped openly; others prefer not to disclose their contributions.

The United States began building the coalition on September 12, 2001, and there are currently 70 nations supporting the global war on terrorism. To date, 21 nations have deployed more than 16,000 troops to the U.S. Central Command's region of responsibility. This coalition of the willing is working hard every day to defeat terrorism, wherever it may exist.

In Afghanistan alone, our coalition partners are contributing nearly 8,000 troops to Operation Enduring Freedom and to the International Security Assistance Force in Kabul – making up over half of the 15,000 non-Afghan forces in Afghanistan. The war against terrorism is a broad-based effort that will take time. Every nation has different circumstances and will participate in different ways. This mission and future missions will require a series of coalitions ready to take on the challenges and assume the risks associated with such an operation.

Coalition forces have made important contributions in the war against terrorism across the spectrum of operations. Particular contributions include, but are not limited to, providing vital intelligence, personnel, equipment and assets for use on the ground, air and sea. Coalition members also have provided liaison teams, participated in planning, provided bases and granted over-flight permissions – as well as sizable contributions of humanitarian assistance.

[Sign up for the Coalition Bulletin!](#)

Coalition Partners



25 Sept 20

14 Sept 2

01 Sept

25 Aug 20

07 Jul 200

16 Jun 20

06 Jun 20

26 May 20

19 May 20

12 May 20

05 May 20

27 Apr 20

20 Apr 20

13 Apr 20

28 Mar 20

16 Mar 20

09 Mar 20

02 Mar 20

23 Feb 20

13 Feb 20



06 Feb 20

25 Jan 20



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Under the Colors".....4**

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Better Vision for Afghan Child





Female sergeants graduate ANP's satanman course

Combined Security Transition Command - Afghanistan Public Affairs

KABUL, Afghanistan — Seventeen women graduated from the Afghan National Police's three-month Satanman, or "middle tier," course at the police academy Aug. 31, and are now prepared to serve the public and secure Afghanistan.

The sergeant graduates received their certificates of completion in the auditorium after the head trainer and senior officials of the ANP addressed them. The messages from the ANP leaders were words of encouragement for their future endeavors, and expressions of gratitude for their service to the security of Afghanistan.



Photos by Petty Officer 2nd Class Will Townsend

Col. Said Enaya Tullah, one of communities with their ability to find out



Defense and Security Highlights, Afghanistan

Sept. 16, 2006

Parliament members make first visit to KMTC

Combined Security Transition Command -
Afghanistan Public Affairs

KABUL, Afghanistan — Nine members of Parliament's Commission of Defense and Territorial Integrity Affairs arrived at the Kabul Military Training Center in a flourish of salutes and flashes of cameras for a visit in August.

This was their first visit, and Brig. Gen. Mohammad Amin Wardak, KMTC Commander, was more than happy to show them how well things are progressing.

commission; Ali Akbar Qasime, deputy of the commission; Abdul Hade Safe, secretary of the commission; and six commission members were able to observe several aspects of training, to include weapons training with laser rifles. Following this part of the tour, Mr. Haq Olomi, couldn't help but express his



Photo by Lt. Cmdr. John P.



DV

Desert Voice Magazine

Serving U.S. and Coalition Forces in Kuwait

September 13, 2006



DV Contents

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Suicide Prevention

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Task Force Ready -- the eyes over Iraq.

Pages 4&5

101st goes home with ARCENT's help.

Pages 6&7

Soldiers become citizens -- their stories.

Pages 8&9

Making the best of used parts from the Camp Arifjan stock yard.

Page 10

Keeping tabs on materiel --

Suicide awareness and prevention: It's everyone's responsibility

September 10-16 is National Suicide Awareness Week. The Army's mission: Minimize suicidal behavior by encouraging help-seeking and providing "buddy care."

Eighty-eight deaths in the 2005 calendar year in the U.S. Army were confirmed as suicides, according to the Army Suicide Prevention Program. This year, as of August 2, the sum is 46.

Know the facts.

Fact: 80 percent of completed suicides had given definite indications of their intention

Fact: Suicidal people already have the idea. Talking about it may invite them to ask for help.

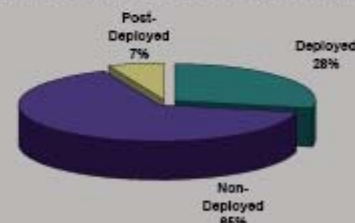
Fact: 95% are undecided about it. They call for help before or after the attempt.

Fact: Most suicides are carefully planned and thought about for weeks.

Fact: Most are suicidal for only a brief period. Timely intervention may save their life.

Fact: Most suicidal persons are not mentally ill. Severe emotional distress is

Calendar Year 2006 Suicides by Deployment Status



A third of all confirmed suicides in the Army have come from Soldiers either deployed or coming back from deployment.

- Loss of self-esteem/status
- Humiliation and ridicule
- Rejection (e.g., job, promotion, significant

Soldiers pay respect to fallen warrior, friend

Staff Sgt. James E. Martin
Public Affairs, 377th TSC

Soldiers from the 2nd Battalion, 127th Infantry gathered under a desert moon Aug. 8 at Camp Navistar to honor the memory of Sgt. Ryan David Jopek who died from injuries received from an improvised explosive device Aug. 1 while performing his duty as a gunner on a convoy mission in Iraq.

The 2nd Battalion, 127th Infantry is a subordinate unit of the 377th Theater Support Command that provides security for convoys moving supplies into and out of Iraq.

Jopek was represented in front of the battalion formation by a monument composed of his rifle with his Stetson on top, a set of dog tags dangling from the rifle set behind a photograph of him and his cavalry boots with gold

how proud he was to be following in his father's footsteps serving his country."

One of Jopek's friends continued the tribute. "If you were to ask anyone who knew Sgt. Jopek, myself included, what is the first thing they picture when they think of him, the answer is almost always the same, his smile," said Sgt. Kyle Clemins. "He had a big goofy grin that could brighten the day of anyone he crossed paths with."

"Without fail I knew I could count on him, because he cared about his role and the mission," Clemins said. "Jopek had the ability to recognize when someone needed a friend. It was nothing for him to

take a little time out of his schedule just to lift the spirits of someone in need."

Clemins finished his tribute to his fallen friend by reading "Fiddler's Green," a cavalry poem that memorializes those who have given the ultimate sacrifice for their nation.

Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Andrew Aquino followed with his praise and a prayer.

"He was loved by everyone and was happy. You will be hard pressed to find a photo among the many where he is not smiling," he said.

"He did good, and had a valued place in this battalion. We will not forget, nor can we forget the blessing of his presence."

Seven Soldiers then fired their rifles to give Jopek a 21-gun salute, immediately followed by the playing of *Taps*.

Following the ceremony, the commanding general for the battalion's higher headquarters spoke about Jopek's impact in the unit





FIGHTING BACK AGAINST SEXUAL ASSAULT

KNOW HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF

Debrah Robertson
Staff Writer

Just past dusk and the temperatures
 to drop. "Now's a good time for a
 you think. As you head out the door,
 grab a bottle of water. The gym is
 the street, but the perimeter of the
 has its appeal. It's secluded. It's quiet.
 on't have to worry about the traffic as
 Then, you feel this eerie sensation
 round a curve along the dark road.
 being watched?" Perhaps so.
 ough many servicemembers are
 ed with military values, "there are
 s a few bad apples," said Navy Petty
 r 2nd Class Michele Steyh, a Master-
 ns with the Navy Law and Order
 nment.

ult prevention is a very important
 whether you are a civilian or a de-

Timothy Paradis, the noncommissioned of-
 ficer in charge of the Provost Marshal Office.
 "This is an assault (followed) by a battery
 and it goes unreported most of time."

Fortunately, many attacks can be prevented
 by using a few precautions.

"Empower yourself with knowledge," said
 Steyh.

Assault can be curbed by simply knowing
 your surroundings, she continued. "If you see
 something unusual like someone loitering
 around the latrines or showers at night, don't
 be afraid to report (them)."

When you go out, don't go alone. "Have
 a battle buddy if at all possible," said
 Steyh. Predators are less likely to attack a
 group of people.

Also, "make sure someone has a cell
 phone," said Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class
 Mark Martinez, an operations specialist,
 also with Navy Law and Order. If there is
 an issue, you can call someone

ways be alert. Be on your toes," said
 "We get complacent. 'Oh, nothing v
 pen to me.' There are a lot of people

If something does happen, it's imp
 to be ready.

"Keep yourself physically fit," adv
 Steyh. Predators are also less likely
 choose you if you are self-confident

In a prison group that Steyh worke
 as a civilian corrections officer, the
 told her that they chose their victim
 on how confident they appeared.

"I picked her because she looked v
 (She) looked antisocial. (She had) l
 self-esteem," said one inmate to Ste
 knew she would be less likely to fig

If something does happen, your m
 objective is to fight to get away, said

Carry a whistle, advised Martinez
 you are attacked, use it to draw atte
 Scream and shout.

Then fight back, said Steyh. "If th



Iraq Reconstruction Report

A Weekly Construction & Sustainment Update



Major Project Dispatches

Al Ramadi Hospital to Serve 150 -180,000 People

Construction and repairs began recently on the Al Ramadi Hospital in Al Anbar Province. The \$462,000 project will repair the elevator and power system, install a new incinerator and a reverse osmosis potable water system, and renovate the doctors' residences. The Al Ramadi Hospital is a gynecology, obstetrics and children's hospital with 260-bed inpatient and a staff of approximately 500. The hospital is designed to deliver inpatient and outpatient services to approximately 150,000 to 180,000 people.

Washash Electrical Substation Complete



Sector Overview: Current Status – Final Effects

Compiled By: Katie Wall, PCO Washington

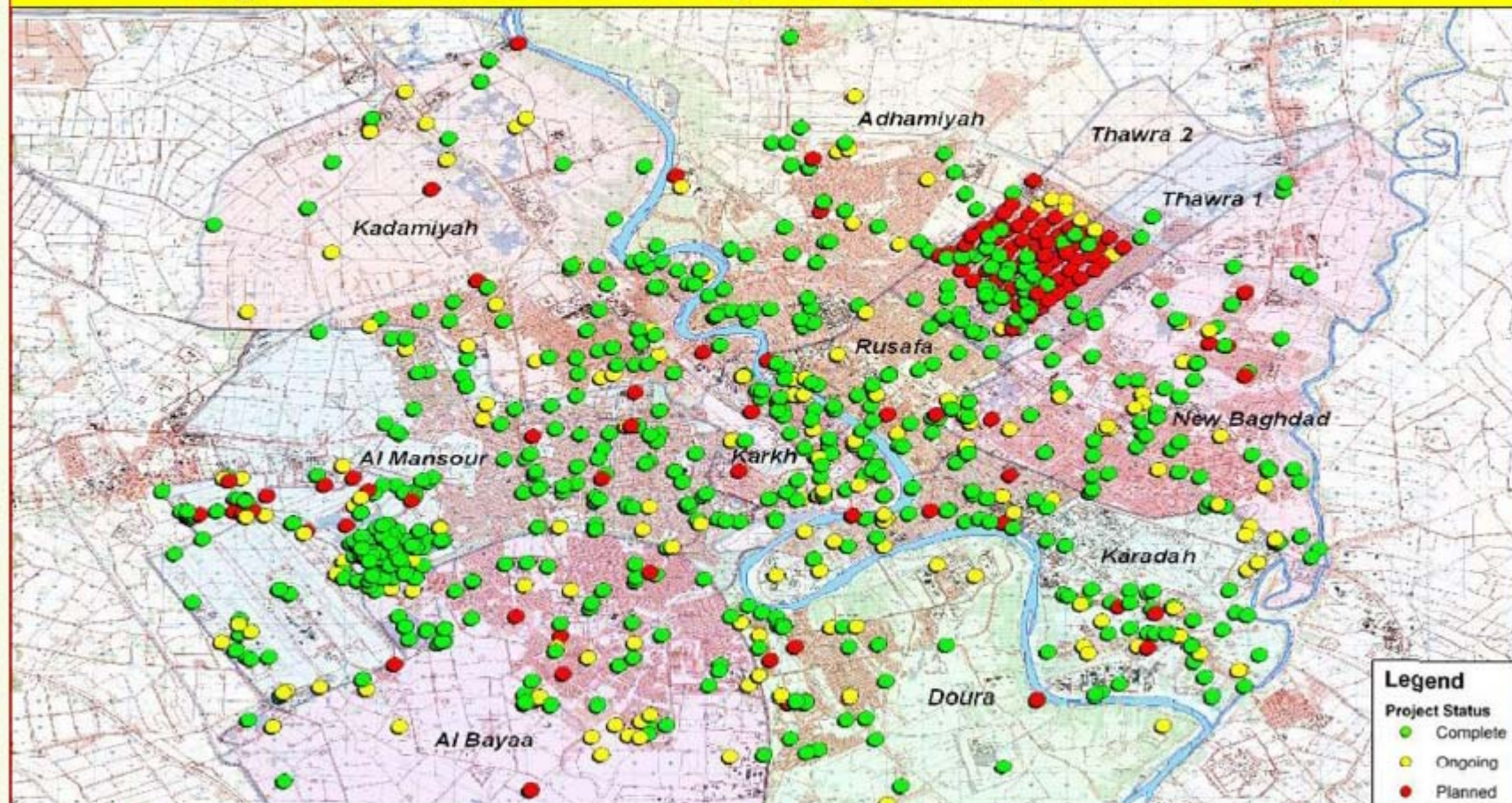
As of: September 22, 2006

- Over \$9.5 billion of the Iraq Relief and Reconstruction Fund (IRRF) has been disbursed by DoD, representing 70.6% of total funds allocated to DoD
- 3,016 projects starts (out of 3,308 planned projects). This number includes the DoD projects funded by the IRRF (including MNSTC-I) and the Development Fund for Iraq (DFI)
- 2,432 projects are complete

Infrastructure Sector	Current Progress	Final Effects
Electricity	<p>1,420 MW capacity added*</p> <p>Increased power generation to 1.3 million homes*</p> <p>Improved Electricity Distribution to approximately 340K Homes*</p> <p>Hours of Power: 11 Iraq, 6 Baghdad (last week average)</p>	<p>1,879 MW capacity added* (2,555 for all USG projects)</p> <p>Increased power generation to 1.7 million homes*</p> <p>Improved Electricity Distribution to approximately 820K Homes*</p> <p>Hours of Power: 10-12 Iraqi, 10-12 Baghdad</p>
Oil	<p>2.5 Million Barrels Per Day (MBPD) production capacity</p> <p>2.37 MBPD actual production</p> <p>Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) production capacity of 1,200 Tons per Day</p>	<p>3.0 MBPD oil production capacity</p> <p>LPG production capacity production capacity of 3,000 Tons per Day</p>
Water & Sewer	<p>Added 417,000 cubic meters per day of water treatment capacity (benefits an</p>	<p>Additional 1,125,000 cubic meters per day of water treatment capacity (will benefit</p>

Baghdad Project Update

Baghdad Reconstruction Projects by Status (as of 12 Sep 06)



	Buildings, Health & Education		Electricity		MNC-I		Public Works & Water		Security & Justice		Transportation and Communication		TOTAL	
	Projects	Cost	Projects	Cost	Projects	Cost	Projects	Cost	Projects	Cost	Projects	Cost	Projects	Cost
Planned	87	\$107M	210	\$764M	1,078	\$298M	76	\$235M	53	\$246M	45	\$62M	1,549	\$1,712B
Ongoing	29	\$66M	122	\$489M	339	\$154M	27	\$33M	11	\$36M	4	\$27M	532	\$805M

Iraq Reconstruction Report

For Kirkuk Businesses, Micro-Finance Brings Hope

Story compiled by Multi-National Force-Iraq Office of Public Affairs

KIRUK, Iraq — It was only a few months ago that a terrorist incident in this northern Iraq city destroyed most of the stock of a local pharmacy, leaving a family-owned business in tatters and depriving the community of much needed medication.

In a spark of hope for moving beyond the insurgency, however, the pharmacy and the services it provides to the community will soon be fully restored. In mid-July, the family took out a loan – the equivalent of \$3,000 in Iraqi Dinars – to replenish the stock and rebuild their business.

Small as it may sound, the amount means a lot in Iraq. The loan was the first to be disbursed by Al-Aman, a new, indigenous micro-finance organization established through a partnership between the U.S. Agency for International Development, the U.S. military and the U.S. State Department-led Kirkuk Provisional Reconstruction Team.

Al-Aman's customers will be small business owners from Kirkuk and the neighboring area who require small amounts of money to finance their operating expenses or purchase new equipment, and have

Coalition News: Displaced Basra Families Receive Help for Ramadan

By LCpl Michael Swales

British forces in Iraq are helping to distribute two thousand gifts of rice, flour and oil to displaced families in Basra, providing food during the religious period of Ramadan.

The gifts are a joint initiative between Iraq's Department for Displaced People and Migrants, the Red Crescent and the British Forces who are funding the venture with reconstruction money.

Nearly 2,000 families are registered as "displaced" with the Iraqi Department for Displaced People and Migrants. They will each receive 50 kilograms of rice, 50 kilograms of flour, a bottle of oil and a Low Pressure Gas bottle.





2nd Brigade Combat
Team Forward
Camp Liberty, Iraq

The Striker Torch

Edition Thirty-Three

October 1, 2006



Sgt. Cory Hall, a squad leader from Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 40th Engineer Battalion, moves between vehicles during a security stop on a patrol to recon a sewer repair project in the Baghdad



Spc. Larry Huissen of Company A, 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry Regiment keeps a watchful eye on activity in Western Baghdad. Photo by 1st Lt. Robert Murray

Iraqi Force operations. When 1st Lt. Chris Thelen, his platoon leader, was asked about Pvt. Huissen he said "he is a very energetic and dependable Soldier; He

as him seeing more family members while on deployment, his chances are good because his brother-in-law is getting ready to deploy later this year.

The Chaplain's Corner

An elderly lady once went shopping and, upon returning to her car, found four men departing with her vehicle. She immediately dropped her bags, drew her handgun, and screamed, "I have a gun and I know how to use it! Get out of the car, you scumbags!"

The four men scattered when they saw the gun. After she calmed down, the woman loaded her groceries and climbed in the car. But when she tried starting it her key wouldn't fit into the ignition. Then she discovered why. The car wasn't hers. Her car was parked four spaces over.

The woman felt so ashamed, she drove to the police station to report the

car jacking by a mad elderly woman described as white, less than 5 feet tall, with glasses and curly white hair, totting a large handgun.

No charges were filed.



When was the last time you jumped the gun and made wrong conclusions about someone? At times we're quick to pull the trigger before we even know the person we're aiming at. Often the art of snap assess-

outward appearance and conclude we know the person within. We judge books—and people—by the cover instead of the content. But when we take the time to read people cover to cover, we discover how little we really know them.

Jesus once said, "Do not judge lest you be judged." (Matt 7:1, NAS). In other words, be slow in drawing conclusions. Remind yourself that there's more to each person than meets the eye. As Henry Wadsworth Longfellow once wrote, "If we could only read the secret history of our enemies, we would find in each man's life, sorrow and suffering enough to disarm all hostility."

October 1, 2006

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Gators Conduct Operation Relentless Hunt

Story by Maj. Jeff Grable

The ongoing efforts to secure Baghdad and prevent violence came to the south Baghdad district of Risalah recently. Soldiers of the 2nd Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, or Task Force Gator, conducted Operation Relentless Hunt during the first week of September. The Task Force operation was carried out in support of Multi National Division – Baghdad's Operation Together Forward and combined the efforts of both Iraqi and Coalition forces. The Risalah district of Baghdad has been the scene of many acts of violence as the terrorists attempt to destabilize the mostly mixed area. The operation, conducted by the Soldiers of Task Force Gator, came as a welcomed surprise to the residents of Risalah who desire peace in their district.

In the early morning hours of September 9th, over 500 Iraqi and Coalition Soldiers cordoned off a densely populated four square kilometer area that is inhabited by over 10,000 people. The Soldiers conducted three days of clearance operations by methodically searching everything within their objectives. The search teams from Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, and Company C, 5th Battalion, 20th Infantry Regi-



Sgt. Joel Hamilton from Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment uses a density detector during clearance of Objective Risalah in Baghdad during Operation Relentless Hunt. Photo by Master Sgt. Bob Johnson

ment (Stryker), descended upon the area and left no stone unturned or corner overlooked. Every Soldier was on the prowl to confiscate illegal weapons and contraband in order to secure the focus area and pre-

barriers that encompassed the entire area. Two points along the perimeter of the focus area were selected due to the suitability as Entry Control Points (ECP) allowing the Iraqi populace to enter in and out, but pre-

Video Stories

Video: Sgt. Lugo

Talks to a KIRO reporter from Seattle, Wash., about how this deployment is going, what his duties are, and what challenges he faces day to day.

Category: Interviews

Video Location: Mosul, Iraq

Interviewee(s): Sgt. Robert Lugo

Force(s) Involved: Army

Component(s) Involved: Active

Submitting Unit: 138th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

Filename: 0609/DOD_I06092808.wmv

Size (bytes): 9029594 (8.61 MB)

Length: 5:38

Date Taken: 09-28-2006



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Benefits of Web-Based Military Newspapers

- Informing library users of these resources enables them to gain enhanced understanding of how soldiers live and what they are experiencing.

- Learn about accomplishments and setbacks experienced by U.S. military personnel in peace and wartime settings
- Learn about statistical benchmarks e.g. Iraq reconstruction less likely to be reported in standard media
- Learn about military efforts to promote cultural awareness of countries where U.S. forces are stationed, serve, and fight.

- Gaining enhanced understanding and appreciation for the work U.S. soldiers do and the conditions they must sometimes work under in hostile environments.
- Gaining the opportunity to view U.S. soldiers and individual men and women instead of remote and abstract figures serving thousands of miles away.